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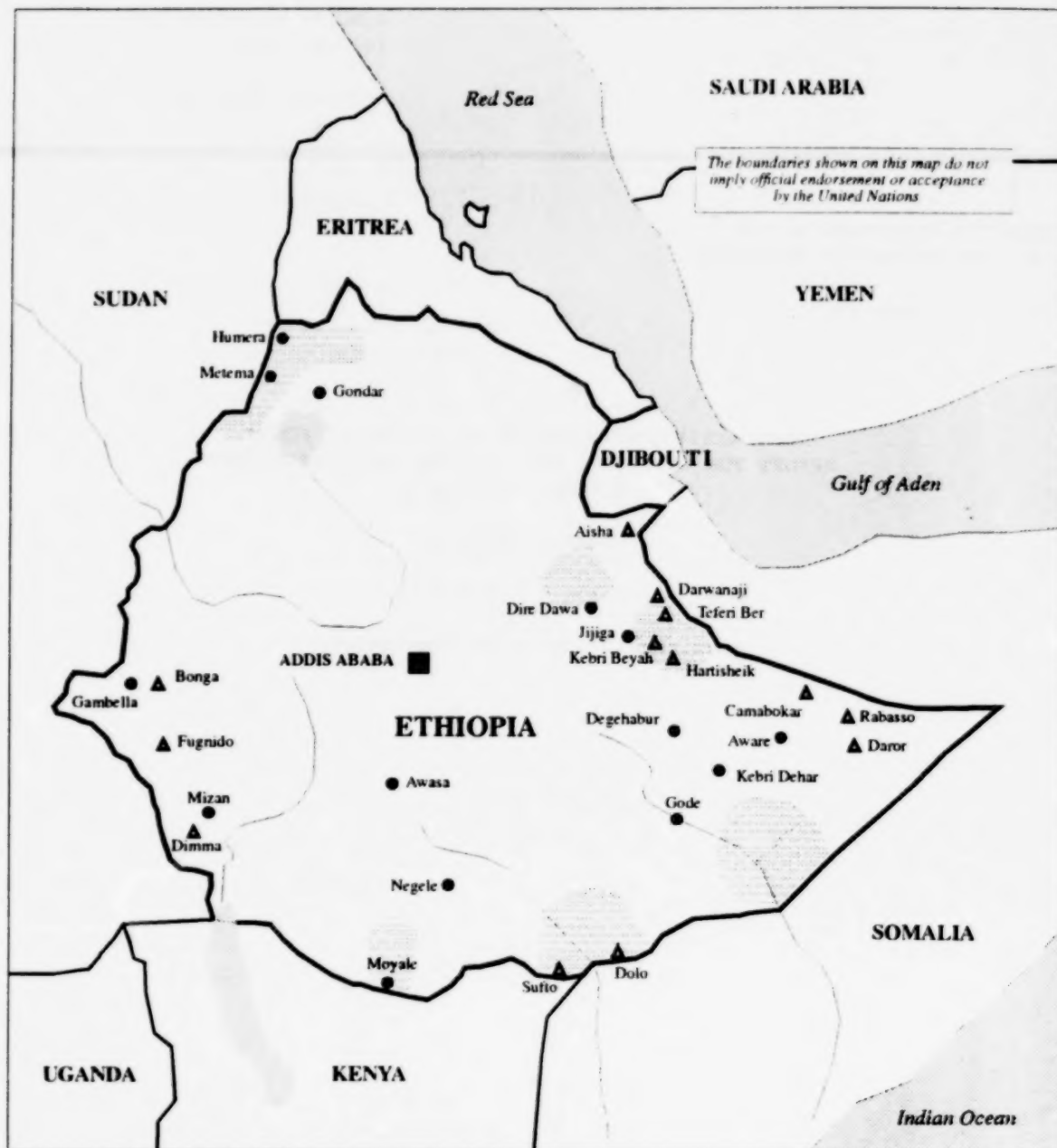
UNHCR ACTIVITIES FINANCED BY VOLUNTARY FUNDS:
REPORT FOR 1994-1995 AND PROPOSED PROGRAMMES AND
BUDGET FOR 1996

PART I. AFRICA

Section 8 - Ethiopia

(submitted by the High Commissioner)

ETHIOPIA



I.8 ETHIOPIA

1. Beneficiary population

1. At 31 December 1994, there were an estimated 348,100 refugees in Ethiopia (333,000 assisted and 15,100 unassisted). By the beginning of May 1995, the refugee population had increased to almost 365,000, comprising 284,200 Somalis, 53,300 Sudanese, 18,000 Djiboutians, 8,700 Kenyans, and 640 urban refugees of various nationalities. Assistance to the Somali refugees in the eastern camps is provided under the care and maintenance project. Some 15,000 unassisted Somali refugees reside in the Dolo area in south-eastern Ethiopia. Sudanese refugees are assisted under the local settlement project and reside in semi-agricultural settlements in western Ethiopia.

2. Developments in 1994 and 1995

2. A revalidation of assisted Somali refugee ration card holders in September and October 1994 resulted in a reduction of the caseload from 632,700 to 184,900 ration card holders. However, this figure rose to 269,000 by the beginning of May 1995 due primarily to an influx of refugees fleeing conflict in North-West Somalia in November 1994. The number of Sudanese refugees in the camps in western Ethiopia also continued to increase, rising from 44,400 at the beginning of 1994 to 51,800 at the end of the year and to 53,300 by the beginning of May 1995.

3. As a result of a new influx of some 80,000 refugees from North-West Somalia into eastern Ethiopia, an additional \$ 2.1 million were allocated from the Programme Reserve to meet the growing needs of new arrivals under the 1995 Care and Maintenance project. These funds have been used to provide support to implementing partners as well as to replenish stocks which had been held for the repatriation of Somali refugees to North-West Somalia but which had to be distributed to new arrivals.

4. The planned repatriation of Somali refugees from eastern Ethiopia to North-West Somalia during the course of 1994 was suspended due to the above-mentioned renewal of fighting in that region. With relative safety returning to North-West Somalia, voluntary repatriation plans are being revived, with about 10,000 Somali refugees to return under a pilot project in 1995, and another 100,000 expected to repatriate in 1996.

5. The reintegration of Ethiopian returnees from Djibouti, Kenya, Sudan and other countries continued in 1994. Reintegration assistance to 530,000 Ethiopian returnees from Somalia and some 60,000 from the Sudan, Kenya and Djibouti who had repatriated in earlier years to Bale and Borena in the south, and Hararge and Ogaden in the east, was phased out on 31 December 1994. However, reintegration assistance is continuing in 1995 to 35,644 Ethiopian returnees who repatriated in 1994 from Djibouti, Kenya and Sudan. Although some 60,000 Ethiopian refugees were to have repatriated during 1995, the slow pace of repatriation (3,000 had returned by the end of May) has led to revision of plans, with 30,000 expected to repatriate in 1995 and the remainder in 1996. In addition, repatriation started in 1995 of some 35,650 Ethiopian refugees from Djibouti (25,000), Kenya (10,000), and other countries (650). By the end of May, 9,256 refugees had returned from Djibouti, and about 3,000 from Kenya. The majority of returnees in 1994 and 1995 have received

individual reintegration packages in the form of agricultural implements, reintegration grants and, where feasible, income-generation grants. Reintegrative assistance to family or individual returnees has been found appropriate in situations where returnees go to areas which are geographically widely dispersed, thereby negating any meaningful community-based assistance activity.

3. 1996 country programmes

(a) Objectives

6. The programme objectives for Ethiopia in 1996 reflect, by and large, the positive government policy towards refugees and the climate of peace and stability conducive to the return of Ethiopian refugees from asylum countries, as well as political developments resulting in population displacements in neighbouring countries.

7. **Somali refugees:** The fighting which flared up in North-West Somalia in November 1994 has led more Somali refugees to seek refuge in Ethiopia. It is therefore proposed to continue assistance to the Somali refugees in Ethiopia into 1996. It is anticipated, however, that some Somalis will wish to repatriate to safe areas of North-West Somalia. Should there be peace and stability in North-West Somalia in 1996, it is planned to assist approximately 100,000 refugees to return.

8. **Djiboutian and Kenyan refugees:** The conditions which compelled these refugees to flee their home countries may no longer exist. The primary task in the latter part of 1995 and in 1996 will therefore be to consult relevant authorities in Djibouti and Kenya, and, if feasible, organize a voluntary repatriation of the refugees. In the meantime, the limited assistance programme, which includes food, community health services, education and water supply, will continue in 1996 if the proposed consultations fail to produce any tangible results.

9. **Sudanese refugees:** Due to the conflict in southern Sudan, it is assumed that the influx into Ethiopia from that part of the country will continue in 1996. The planning figure for Sudanese refugees in 1996 stands at 70,000. The main objective for the caseload in 1996 is to attain partial self-sufficiency, primarily through agricultural production but also with an increased emphasis on other income-generating activities. If agricultural production can be increased, either through intensified cultivation or through the allocation of additional land, it is planned to reduce WFP rations in proportion to the amounts harvested. Further efforts will be made to target educational and vocational training activities towards actual income-generation opportunities.

10. Negotiations will continue with the central and regional government authorities to obtain additional agricultural land for refugees, and in particular to agree on a new settlement site to accommodate the continuing influx from southern Sudan and to ensure that populations in the other settlements remain within their carrying capacities. Continuing efforts will be made to complete the infrastructure in the existing settlements, and to initiate the development of basic infrastructure at the new settlement site.

11. **Returnees:** The repatriation of 60,000 Ethiopian refugees from Sudan which started in 1995 is scheduled to be completed in 1996. Reintegration assistance in the form of food packages, travel and reintegration grants, and domestic items such as jerrycans and plastic sheeting, are provided to each returnee family during dispersal at the transit centres. Much of the beneficiary population is composed of women and children. Rehabilitation of infrastructure, such as health and education facilities, will be undertaken where feasible. Similar assistance will be given to repatriants from Djibouti and Kenya, as well as from other countries.

(b) **Proposed budgets for 1996**

(i) **General Programmes**

12. **Care and Maintenance:** At the time the initial 1996 budget was prepared, it was anticipated that by the end of September 1995 all Somali refugees opting for voluntary repatriation would have repatriated to North-West Somalia. Those remaining, estimated at 70,000, were to be screened and mandate cases consolidated into one camp.

13. However, given the political situation in North-West Somalia, it is unlikely that further significant repatriation from Ethiopia will take place in 1995 and the above planning assumptions must be revised. It is therefore proposed to continue the care and maintenance of the Somali refugees during 1996. A review of 1996 programme needs, which may require an upward revision, will take place during the second half of 1995.

14. Depending on progress achieved regarding consultations in 1995 with the authorities in Djibouti and Kenya on the voluntary repatriation of the refugees from Ethiopia, assistance to the two caseloads will continue in 1996 on a limited scale.

15. The sectoral breakdown of the initial and revised 1995 as well as the initial 1996 care and maintenance allocation is as follows (in dollars):

<u>Sector</u>	<u>Initial 1995</u>	<u>Revised 1995</u>	<u>Initial 1996</u>
Food	89,704	84,106	54,633
Transport	260,113	249,830	128,410
Domestic needs	168,750	168,750	0
Water	1,221,605	1,215,774	518,204
Sanitation	53,071	49,760	51,823
Health	712,904	683,400	347,831
Shelter	357,979	354,512	274,201
Community serv.	68,896	64,597	15,668
Education	69,418	65,098	39,373
Forestry	21,784	20,423	0
Legal assistance	2,133	2,000	16,796
Agency op. supp.	<u>657,643</u>	<u>620,350</u>	<u>208,661</u>
<u>Total</u>	3,684,000	3,578,600	1,655,600

16. **Local settlement:** Assistance to Sudanese refugees under a local settlement project will continue in 1996. It is estimated that up to 70,000 will be assisted throughout 1996 at the three camps of Bonga, Fugnido and Dimma in western Ethiopia. If agricultural production can be increased, either through intensified cultivation or through the use of additional land, it is planned to reduce WFP rations proportionate to the amounts harvested. Further efforts will be made to target educational and vocational training activities towards actual income-generating activities.

17. Urban refugees will continue to be assisted on a case-by-case basis. Efforts will be made under the new joint screening arrangements with the Administration for Refugee and Returnee Affairs (ARRA) to screen all urban refugees with a view to either transferring them to relevant refugee camps or providing the necessary assistance in Addis Ababa on the basis of need.

(ii) **Special Programmes**

18. **Horn of Africa:** On 2 February 1993, the Governments of Ethiopia and Sudan signed a Tripartite Agreement with UNHCR to facilitate the return and reintegration of Ethiopian refugees from Sudan. After opening a field office in Humera in 1994, the UNHCR-organized repatriation started in April 1995 and 3,000 refugees have already returned from Port Sudan. It is envisaged that by the end of 1995 about 30,000 Ethiopian refugees will have returned and integrated into their home areas. A further 30,000 returnees are expected from the Sudan in 1996.

19. It is hoped that the political situation in North-West Somalia will improve significantly in 1996 to allow for the voluntary repatriation of up to 100,000 Somali refugees from eastern Ethiopia.

20. The following is a sectoral breakdown of the initial and revised 1995 as well as the initial 1996 repatriation/reintegration allocation (in dollars):

<u>Sector</u>	<u>Initial 1995</u>	<u>Revised 1995</u>	<u>Initial 1996</u>
Food	96,830	277,094	66,547
Transport	3,973,800	3,935,031	1,119,379
Domestic needs	451,200	558,053	179,860
Water	600,000	1,356,730	528,904
Sanitation	90,470	3,696	2,400
Health	501,710	377,136	247,240
Shelter	721,710	6,400	0
Community serv.	0	117,288	151,440
Education	200,000	563,200	466,496
Crop prod.	150,000	1,565,634	364,846
Livestock	300,000	180,760	92,860
Forestry	900,000	17,000	13,000
Income gen.	100,000	3,264,000	489,600
Legal assist.	99,790	85,160	1,200
Agency op. supp.	<u>414,290</u>	<u>903,018</u>	<u>636,828</u>
<u>Total</u>	8,599,800	13,210,200	4,360,600

21. Other trust funds: The Government of Germany continued funding the Environmental Degradation Prevention and Control programme in the Kebri Dehar region of eastern Ethiopia. This programme started in 1994 and will continue through 1997.

(c) Implementing partners

22. The main UNHCR implementing partner in Ethiopia is ARRA, a unit within the Ministry of Internal Affairs. The cooperation and implementation arrangements with this agency will continue in 1996. UNHCR, in consultation with ARRA, will continue to involve technical government institutions in sectors such as health, education, agriculture, water and road construction, at both central and regional levels in refugee/returnee assistance programmes.

23. UNHCR in Ethiopia has long drawn on the skills and experiences of national and international non-governmental organizations (NGOs) for the implementation of its refugee programme of assistance. With the UNHCR-NGO Partnership in Action (PARinAC) Oslo Declaration of June 1994, and with the subsequent election of the Christian Relief and Development Association as the Ethiopian national NGO focal point for PARinAC, cooperation with NGOs in project implementation will be strengthened in 1996. Within the context of PARinAC, regular monthly meetings are being held in Addis Ababa; this process will continue in 1996.

24. Cooperation with NGOs in project implementation that started in 1995 will continue in 1996. These local NGOs include the Ethiopian Relief Organization (ERO), Relief Society of Tigray (REST), Oromo Self-help Organization (OSHO), National Committee on Traditional Practices in Ethiopia (NCTPE), Opportunities Industrialization Centre - Ethiopia (OICE), and the Refugee and Returnee Affairs Department within the Development and Inter-Church Aid Commission of the Ethiopian Orthodox Church (DICAC). International NGOs which have implementation arrangements with UNHCR include CARE International (in water tanking), Radda Barnen-Sweden (in education), Handicap International (in assistance to physically handicapped refugees), and Save the Children Fund-UK (in small-scale businesses for Ethiopian women returnees from Djibouti in Gursum, Babile and Jijiga).

(d) Programme Delivery and Administrative Support Costs

(i) 1994 expenditure (all sources of funds)

25. The 1994 expenditure was lower than the revised estimates due to savings made in staff costs following the late filling of vacancies particularly in the Humera Field Office. As a result of the slow rate of implementation of both the repatriation and the returnee operations in Ethiopia in 1994, general operating expenses were lower than expected. However, the above-mentioned savings were offset by higher expenditure for the common United Nations Staff medical facilities in Addis Ababa.

(ii) Revised 1995 requirements (all sources of funds)

26. The revised 1995 requirements are higher than initial estimates mainly because the revised requirements include the cost of 36 additional General Service posts created to regularize the situation of staff working in UNHCR offices in Ethiopia who were recruited under a contractual arrangement through an implementing partner. Furthermore, in order to strengthen relations and cooperation between UNHCR and the Organizations of African Unity, a post of Senior Liaison Officer was created effective 1 January 1995. Several repatriation-related posts that were identified for discontinuation either by June or by December 1995, on the assumption that the majority of the Somali refugees in Ethiopia would have repatriated by that time, had to be extended. The revised 1995 estimates also include replacement costs of old office equipment and vehicles.

(iii) Initial 1996 estimates (all sources of funds)

27. In view of the anticipated repatriation from Ethiopia, a reduction in staffing levels is expected in 1996. However given the volatile situation in the region, the staffing requirements for 1996 will be reviewed towards the end of 1995, taking into account the prevailing situation. The initial 1996 provision for purchase of non-expendable property is lower than 1995 revised requirements as major investments in equipment and vehicles have been made in the previous years. However a modest provision is made for vehicles and some office equipment that will need replacement during 1996.

UNHCR EXPENDITURE IN ETHIOPIA

(in thousands of United States dollars)

1994	1995	1996		
AMOUNT OBLIGATED	ALLOCATION APPROVED BY 1994 EXCOM	PROPOSED REVISED ALLOCATION	SOURCE OF FUNDS AND TYPE OF ASSISTANCE	PROPOSED ALLOCATION/ PROJECTION
GENERAL PROGRAMMES (1)				
6,570.0	3,684.0	3,578.6	CARE AND MAINTENANCE	1,655.6
3,526.1 a/	4,048.7	3,988.9	LOCAL SETTLEMENT	4,240.4
111.6 b/	—	—	RESETTLEMENT	—
3,094.6	1,770.7	3,114.7	PROGRAMME DELIVERY See Overview Tables (Part II)	2,622.4
13,302.3	9,503.4	10,682.2	SUB-TOTAL OPERATIONS	8,518.4
593.0	683.9	553.0	ADMINISTRATIVE SUPPORT See Overview Tables (Part II)	538.2
13,895.3	10,187.3	11,235.2	TOTAL (1)	9,056.6
SPECIAL PROGRAMMES (2)				
64.8	75.1	—	EDUCATION ACCOUNT	—
340.8	8,599.8	13,210.2	HORN OF AFRICA	4,360.6
1,086.1	1,254.8	1,695.7	PROGRAMME DELIVERY See Overview Tables (Part II)	710.9
161.4	149.2	242.8	ADMINISTRATIVE SUPPORT See Overview Tables (Part II)	159.1
282.9	—	170.6	OTHER TRUST FUNDS Various assistance	170.6
16.4	1.4	83.0	ADMINISTRATIVE SUPPORT Junior Professional Officer See Overview Tables (Part II)	24.0
1,952.4	10,080.3	15,402.3	TOTAL (2)	5,425.2
15,847.7	20,267.6	26,637.5	GRAND TOTAL (1+2)	14,481.8

a/ of which US\$ 7,415 incurred against Other Programmes

b/ obligation incurred against Other Programmes